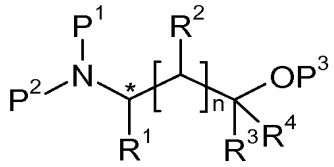
Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims as shown below in the Listing of Claims.

Listing of Claims

1-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) A process for the hydrogenation of a compound, comprising hydrogenating a C_6-C_{18} aromatic substituted amino acid or C_6-C_{18} aromatic substituted amino alcohol in the presence of a platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst, wherein said C_6-C_{18} aromatic substituted amino acid or C_6-C_{18} aromatic substituted amino alcohol is of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

n is 0, 1 or 2;

R^1 is a (C_6-C_{18}) aryl, or a(C_7-C_{19}) aralkyl, wherein aryl groups are optionally substituted with halogen, (C_1-C_8) alkoxy, (C_1-C_8) acyl, or (C_1-C_8) acyloxy;

R^2 is H, OH, (C_1-C_8) alkyl, (C_2-C_8) alkoxyalkyl;

R^3 and R^4 are each independently H, a (C_1-C_8) alkyl, a (C_6-C_{18}) aryl, or together denote an =O function;

P^1 and P^2 are each independently hydrogen, an amino protective group or together stand for a bifunctional amino protective group;

P^3 is hydrogen, a hydroxyl protective group, or a carboxyl protective group; and

the carbon atom marked with * is an asymmetrical carbon atom;

and wherein said process produces a yield of greater than 94% after a reaction time of about 6 to 8 hours ~~or less~~.

29. (Previously presented) The process of claim 28, wherein n is 1 or 2.

30. (Previously presented) The process of claim 29, wherein R^3 and R^4 are each independently a (C_1-C_8) alkyl, a (C_6-C_{18}) aryl, or together denote an =O function.

31. (Previously presented) The process of claim 29, wherein R^2 is H, OH, (C_1-C_8) alkyl, (C_2-C_8) alkoxyalky.

32. (Previously presented) The process of claim 28, wherein said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is used in a quantity of 0.1 to 20 wt%, relative to the compound undergoing hydrogenation and the ratio of platinum to rhodium in said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is between 20:1 and 1:1 (w/w).

33. (Previously presented) The process of claim 28, wherein said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is adsorbed on a support.

34. (Previously presented) The process of claim 28, wherein said hydrogenation is performed in the presence of a solvent selected from the group consisting of: water; an alcohol; an ether; and mixtures thereof.

35. (Previously presented) The process of claim 28, wherein said hydrogenation is performed at a temperature of 10°C to 150°C.

36. (Previously presented) The process of claim 28, wherein said process comprises reacting said C_6-C_{18} aromatic substituted amino acid or C_6-C_{18} aromatic substituted amino alcohol with hydrogen gas in the presence of said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst and under a hydrogen pressure of between 1 and 100 bar.

37. (Previously presented) The process of claim 28, wherein:
    a) R^2 is H;
    b) R^3 and R^4 are H, or together denote an =O function; and
    c) the ratio of platinum to rhodium in said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is between 20:1 and 1:1 (w/w).

38. (Previously presented) The process of claim 37, wherein said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is used in a quantity of 0.1 to 20 wt%, relative to the compound undergoing hydrogenation.

39. (Previously presented) The process of claim 38, wherein:

a) said hydrogenation is performed in the presence of a solvent selected from the group consisting of: water; and an alcohol;

b) said hydrogenation is performed under a hydrogen pressure of between 1 and 100 bar; and

c) said hydrogenation is performed at a temperature of 10°C to 150°C.

40. (Previously presented) The process of claim 39, wherein said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is adsorbed on a support.

41. (Currently amended) A process for the hydrogenation of a compound selected from the group consisting of: L-phenylalanine, D-phenylalanine, L-phenylglycine, D-phenylglycine, L-tyrosine or D-tyrosine, comprising hydrogenating said compound in the presence of a platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst wherein said process produces a yield of greater than 94% after a reaction time of <u>about 6 to</u> 8 hours ~~or less~~.

42. (Previously presented) The process of claim 41, wherein the ratio of platinum to rhodium in said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is between 20:1 and 1:1 (w/w).

43. (Previously presented) The process of claim 42, wherein said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is used in a quantity of 0.1 to 20 wt%, relative to the compound undergoing hydrogenation.

44. (Previously presented) The process of claim 43, wherein said hydrogenation is performed in the presence of a solvent selected from the group consisting of: water; an alcohol; an ether; and mixtures thereof.

45. (Previously presented) The process of claim 44, wherein said hydrogenation is performed at a temperature of 10°C to 150°C.

46. (Currently amended) The process of claim 45, wherein said process comprises reacting said compound ~~C_6-C_{18} aromatic substituted amino acid~~ or ~~C_6-C_{18} aromatic substituted amino alcohol~~ with hydrogen gas in the presence of said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst and under a hydrogen pressure of between 1 and 100 bar.

47. (Previously presented) The process of claim 46, wherein said platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst is adsorbed on a support.